

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please add news claims 28 and 29.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claim 1 (previously amended) A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding EIF2C1 (SEQ ID NO:3), wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with said nucleic acid molecule encoding EIF2C1 and inhibits the expression of EIF2C1.

Claim 2 (original) The compound of claim 1 which is an antisense oligonucleotide.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

Claim 5 (original) The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

Claim 6 (original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

Claim 7 (original) The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

Claim 8 (original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

Claim 9 (original) The compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

Claim 10 (original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

Claim 11 (original) A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length which specifically hybridizes with at least an 8-nucleobase portion of an active site on a nucleic acid molecule encoding EIF2C1.

Claim 12 (original) A composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claim 13 (original) The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

Claim 14 (original) The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

Claim 15 (original) A method of inhibiting the expression of EIF2C1 in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of EIF2C1 is inhibited.

Claims 16-19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (previously amended) A method of modulating the process of RNA-mediated interference (RNAi) in a cell or animal comprising administering to said cell or animal a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 so that expression of EIF2C1 is inhibited.

Claim 21 (previously added) A method of interfering with a function of RNA in a cell comprising contacting a cell with an antisense compound capable of modulating an endogenous RNA-mediated interference pathway.

Claim 22 (previously added) The method of claim 21 wherein the function of RNA is translation of protein from said RNA.

Claim 23 (previously added) The method of claim 22 wherein the antisense compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

Claim 24 (previously added) The method of claim 23 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide specifically hybridizes with a nucleic acid molecule encoding EIF2C1 and inhibits the expression of EIF2C1.

Claim 25 (canceled)

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Claim 26 (previously added) A method of inhibiting translation initiation in a cell comprising contacting a cell with an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 so that expression of a nucleic acid molecule encoding EIF2C1 is reduced and translation initiation is inhibited.

Claim 27 (previously added) A method of inhibiting translation initiation complex formation in a cell comprising contacting a cell with an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 so that expression of a nucleic acid molecule encoding EIF2C1 is reduced and translation initiation complex formation is inhibited.

Claim 28 (new) The method of any one of claims 15, 20, 21, 26 or 37 wherein said inhibition is at least 60%.

Claim 29 (new) The compound of claim 1 wherein said compound inhibits EIF2C1 expression by at least 60%.

Claim 30 (new) The method of claim 28 wherein said inhibition is at least 80%.

Claim 31 (new) The compound of claim 29 wherein said compound inhibits EIF2C1 expression by at least 80%.
